

TREATMENT OF SCOTTISH HISTORY

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astical policy of James II In Scotland. But
chapter xiii Is
the first one devoted entirely to Scotland, and
while it
contains a lengthy description of the condition
of the
Highlands, there is not anywhere an equally
full account
of the condition of the Lowlands.

Macaulay introduces this description of the
condition
of the Highlands In order to explain the rising
of the clans
on behalf of James II. Its correctness has
been vehement-
ently denied, and a section of Paget's Xew
Examen is
devoted to its refutation. 'Ye cannot allow',
says Mr.
Paget, ' this gross caricature, this shameless
libel, this
malignant slander, this parricidal onslaught
by a son to
pass unnoticed. Lowlanders as we are, it
moves our
indignation/ ' He then examines Macaulay's
authorities
In detail, and has no difficulty In showing that
some of
them are of very little value, and that others
do not say
what they are represented as saying.
However, the errors
In Macaulay's description of the Highlands are
less serious
than his omissions. The Lowlanders were the
makers of
the Scottish nation : their ideas and their
institutions
moulded its character, shaped its future, and
determined
its place in the British Empire. Anyone who
reads Mac-
aulay's narrative of the events which followed
the Revolution
in Scotland should supplement it by

reading the
chapter entitled Scotland on the Eve of the
Union, in
Professor Hume Brown's History of Scotland.²
It sum-
marises in a masterly fashion the state of
agriculture, trade,
Industry, and commerce during the later part
of the
seventeenth century. Incidentally it corrects
some of
Macaulay's errors. For instance, Macaulay
somewhat

¹ New Examen (1860 ed.), p. So.

³ P. Hume Brown, History of Scotland (3 vols. ; 1911), ill.
chap, 2. TMs
should be taken in connection with volume ii. pp. 350-8,
describing the
Social Condition of the Country (1625-1689).